"Crown of the head flat; snout rather prominent, as long as the diameter of the eye; canthus rostralis distinct; nostril lateral and beneath the latter; at the end of the snout a linear furrow. Body slender; parotids flat and elongate; tympanum hidden; temporal region, back, and sides covered with prominent warts; beneath finely granulate. Fingers and toes short; the latter shortly webbed. No tarsal fold; palm with one, sole with two small tubercles."

"Dark yellowish brown, with irregular longitudinal and transversal black spots. Limbs irregularly barred. Belly brownish yellow, marbled and spotted with black."

"Total length 0·030 m., length of head 0·008, breadth of head 0·009, fore limb 0·018, hand (to the tip of the third finger) 0·006, hind limb 0·028, foot (to the tip of the fourth toe) 0·083."

Hab. Taita (East Africa).

Brussels, July 31, 1880.

EXPLANATION OF THE PLATES.

Plate L.

a. *Bufo viridis* ♀. Noukouss. M. Lataste's collection.
b. Upper surface of head of ♀. } Mangyschlak. { From the St. Petersburg
c. „ „ ♂. } Museum.
d. „ „ ♂. Copenhagen. Brussels Museum.

Plate LI.

a. *Bufo mauritanicus* ♀. Algiers. M. Lataste's collection.
b. „ „ ♂. Skull from above. Algiers. M. Lataste's collection.

Plate LII.

Bufo regularis, var. B, ♀. Cape of Good Hope. Paris Museum.

2. A List of the Birds of the Island of Ruk in the Central Carolines. By Otto Finsch, Ph.D., C.M.Z.S., &c.

[Received August 12, 1880.]

Ruk, Rug, or, as the natives call it, more correctly, Tug (Hogoleu of the older charts), is the most important island of the Central Carolines. It consists of several low and high islands, surrounded by a barrier-reef. Of these islands Tol and Ruk are the largest and highest. The zoology of this group of islands is very limited; and, if I am right, Hombron and Jacquinot are the only naturalists who have examined it. The 'Voyage au Pôle Sud,' however, gives us only three species of birds as occurring there—namely, *Drymophila rugensis*, *Myiagra oceanica*, and *Calamoherpe syrinx*; and no other additions have been made since. During my stay on Ponapé it was my privilege to inspect a considerable series of birds collected by Mr. J. Kubary, who spent fourteen months in investigations and collections on this island. I have thought it useful to give a short

notice of this collection—the more so as Mr. Kubary has kindly furnished me with a list of all the species observed or obtained by him; so that the following list will contain a full enumeration of the birds of Ruk. Of the total number of 29 species, only two are peculiar to the islands (*Drymophila rugensis* and *Myiagra oceanica*). The species marked in the subjoined list with an asterisk I did not inspect myself, but insert on the authority of Mr. J. Kubary.

1. Collocalia vanicorensis (Quoy & Gaim.).

Agrees in every respect with specimens from the Palaos and Kushai.

2. Myzomela rubratra (Less.).

Agrees with Ponapé specimens.

3. Calamoherpe syrinx, Kittl.

Agrees with Ponapé specimens.

4. Zosterops semperi, Hartl.

Exactly like specimens from Ponapé.

5. Metabolus rugensis.

Colluricincla rugensis, Jacq. et Puch. Voy. Pôle Sud, iii. p. 62; Atlas, t. 13.

Metabolus rugensis, Bp. C. R. xxxviii. p. 650 (1854).

Native name "Uua."

The adult males of this species in full dress (in July) are of a silky white, with the front, lores, lower part of cheeks, chin, and throat of a dark shining black. In August the same birds are of a uniform dull sooty black. Young males and females (in July and August) are above bright cinnamon-colour, darkest on the wings and tail; below of a light pale rusty colour, passing into whitish in the female, and of a nearly isabelline-white in the male. From this dress the latter change into that of the old male, as one specimen before me already shows the development of the black face.

Young females change from the cinnamon into the black garb.

Mr. Kubary also found nests and eggs of this species, of which I have examined specimens. The nest is of a distinctly cup-shaped form, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch deep by nearly 3 inches in diameter; the walls are thick, and consist entirely of fine halms of grass and fibres. The nests are placed in forked branches of trees, and contain one or two eggs. The latter are cream-coloured, speckled all over with rufous, which at the large end are confluent, and cover this part all over with rufous speckles. Some eggs have more of a pale reddish ground-colour.

6. Myiagra oceanica, Jacq. et Puch. Voy. Pôle Sud, Zool. iii. p. 77; Atlas, pl. 12 bis, f. 1 & 2.

The nest and eggs were obtained by Mr. Kubary. The former

resembles that of *M. pluto* from Ponapé. It is cup-shaped, 12‴ deep by 20‴ to 24‴ in diameter, and consists of fine grass fibres, &c., covered all over outside with moss and lichen. The egg (c. 10‴ long) is of a shining cream-colour, passing faintly into isabelline. A little above the centre, towards the larger end, there is a broad ring of reddish-brown spots, which are confluent and are mixed with some greyish ones; the remaining portion of the egg has a few reddish speckles. The nest is placed on the branches of trees, and contains mostly a single egg, seldom two. The breeding-season is nearly the whole year through. I inspected eggs collected in May, June, and August.

This is a very good species, and by no means identical with *M. albiventris*, Peale, as was suggested by us (Ornith. Centralpolyn. p. 93). I add a short description:—

Male. Upper parts slate-grey; wing and tail darker, of a brownish black; head above with steel-black lustre; underparts white; chin pale; throat and upper part of a bright rust-red.

Female. Like the male, but paler; above smoky brown; head above the same, underneath with only the throat washed with rufous-yellow.

Long. al.	caud.	rostr.	Lat. rostr.	Long. tars.
3″	2″ 7‴	6‴	4‴	9‴

This species is much larger than *M. albiventris*; the latter has only the chin and throat vivid rufous-red and the upper parts black.

7. Calornis pacificus (Gm.).

Specimens from Ruk agree with others from Ponapé and Kushai, although some look apparently a little more shining. A young male has the feathers of the underparts from below the throat distinctly margined on the sides with whitish, forming light longitudinal stripes, as I described in Palau specimens.

*8. Erythrura trichroa (Kittl.).

9. Ptilopus ponapensis, Finsch.

Agrees with Ponapé specimens.

*10. Carpophaga oceanica, Less.

11. Phlogœnas erythroptera (Gm.).

Agrees with specimens from Ponapé.

*12. Strepsilas interpres, L.

*13. Charadrius fulvus, Gm.

14. Numenius phæopus, L.

This is perhaps rather *N. uropygialis*, as the specimens have a dark-barred rump.

*15. Actitis incana (Gm.).

*16. Ardea sacra, Gm.

17. Ardea sinensis, L.

18. Nycticorax manillensis, Vig.

19. Ortygometra cinerea, Vieill.

This species breeds on Ruk. The nest is placed in the grass on swampy ground, and contains but two eggs. The latter (14‴ long, 11‴ diameter) are speckled all over minutely with pale rufous-brown on a pale yellowish-rufous ground.

*20. Sterna bergii, Licht.

*21. Sterna melanauchen, Temm.

22. Anous stolidus (L.).

Agrees with specimens from Ponapé and Kushai.

23. Anous melanogenys (Gm.).

*24. Gygis alba (Sparrm.).

*25. Puffinus obscurus (Gm.).

*26. Phaëton candidus, Briss.

*27. Phaëton rubricauda, Briss.

*28. Tachypetes aquila, L.

*29. Dysporus sula, L.

3. On two Species of Pigeons from the Caroline Islands. By Otto Finsch, M.D., C.M.Z.S., &c., late Director of the Zoological Museum of Bremen.

[Received August 12, 1880.]

1. Ptilopus hernsheimi, sp. nov.

Diagn. Like *P. fasciatus*, but without any marked pectoral or ventral spot; lower part of breast and sides of vent of a uniform grass-green.

Hab. Kuschai (Strong Island, Ualan).

Kittlitz long ago mentioned a small Pigeon as observed by him on the island of Ualan, which he did not obtain. It is now my privilege to be the first naturalist to report on this species; and, after a careful investigation, I feel no doubt as to its specific distinctness, and have given above its chief characteristic differences from its nearest ally. I may remark that I have been able to compare ten specimens. These all correspond in wanting the pectoral spot, which is a well-marked feature and very significant in distinguishing